



MEDICAL BOARD OF CALIFORNIA
LICENSING PROGRAM
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POSTGRADUATE TRAINING REGISTRATION AND INFORMATION TO OBTAIN AN APPLICATION STATUS LETTER

Every medical school graduate who is not licensed in California and who will commence a postgraduate training program in California must register his or her participation in such a program with the Licensing Program of the Medical Board of California.

The form used to register participation in a postgraduate training program, Form L3 – Postgraduate Training Registration Form, is not included in this packet. Please refer below for information applicable to your situation for the filing of this form.

U.S AND CANADIAN MEDICAL SCHOOL GRADUATES

If you are a U.S/Canadian medical school graduate, you must complete one year of ACGME-approved postgraduate training before you are eligible for licensure. Further, California law allows you to engage in two years of postgraduate training without a license. At the end of the two-year period, you must be licensed or all clinical service in California facilities must cease. In calculating the maximum two years of training, the Medical Board includes all approved training undertaken in the United States and Canada.

U.S and Canadian medical school graduates ARE NOT required to obtain approval from the Licensing Program of the Medical board PRIOR to commencing a postgraduate training program; however, they are required to register their participation prior to commencing training by submitting a completed Form L3 to the Board.

The medical facility where the training program will be completed, if in California, has Form L3s available for you to complete.

Specific question regarding your application may be directed to your licensing technician or analyst at the above address or by telephone at (916) 263-2499 between 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. (Pacific Time), Monday through Friday.

If you are a U.S. or Canadian medical graduate, you need not continue reading the remainder of the front or reverse side of this form.

INTERNATIONAL MEDICAL SCHOOL GRADUATES

If you are a U.S/Canadian medical school graduate, you must complete one year of ACGME-approved postgraduate training before you are eligible for licensure. Further, California law allows you to engage in two years of postgraduate training without a license. At the end of the two-year period, you must be licensed or all clinical service in California facilities must cease. In calculating the maximum two years of training, the Medical Board includes all approved training undertaken in the United States and Canada.

International medical school graduates ARE REQUIRED to obtain approval from the Licensing Program of the Medical Board PRIOR TO COMMENCING a postgraduate training program in California. Program Directors of approved programs require international graduates to hold a current **Application Status Letter (Letter)** issued by the Licensing Program, which verifies that his or her medical education has been reviewed and approved as meeting California's licensing requirements. A Form L3 will be included with an applicant's **Letter** upon issuance to be issued to register his or her admittance into a training program.

If you are in need of an **Application Status Letter**, please continue reading the information on the reverse side of this form.

**Information to obtain an APPLICATION STATUS LETTER
(Letter of Eligibility for International Graduates to Commence Postgraduate Training in California)**

In order for Licensing Program staff to determine your eligibility to receive an **Application Status Letter**, you must complete and submit the enclosed application packet with all supporting documents and applicable fees. Staff will evaluate your application to determine whether you have met the minimum requirements necessary to engage in postgraduate training in this state. If you have not taken and passed the FLEX exam prior to June 1, 1986, you must submit a current, valid certificate from the **Educational Commission for Foreign Medical Graduates (ECFMG)** to become eligible for licensure. For information concerning the ECFMG certification process, contact the ECFMG at 3624 Market Street, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, 19104 or by telephone at (215) 386-5900.

The minimum requirements, which must be satisfied by graduates of international medical schools prior to becoming eligible to commence postgraduate training in California, are as follows:

- 1) Submit an application with all supporting documents and fees to the Licensing Program and satisfy all undergraduate medical education and training requirements.

AND

- 2) Take and pass at least Steps 1 and 2 of the USMLE exam or its equivalent. (For purposes of California medical licensure requirements, equivalent exams include Parts I and II of the National Board of Medical Examiners; all parts of the Licentiate of the Medical Council of Canada (LMCC) exam; or, Component 1 of the FLEX exam.)

Applicants who have taken and passed Parts I and II of the National Board exam, or Steps 1 and 2 of the USMLE, are required to have taken and passed Component 2 of the FLEX or Step 3 of the USMLE exam in order to satisfy the written exam requirement for licensure.

Upon issuance of an *Application Status Letter*, international medical school graduates may commence postgraduate training in California. You must complete 24 months of ACGME-approved training before becoming eligible for licensure, but you may complete up to 36 months of ACGME-approved postgraduate training in this state prior to obtaining a California license. At the end of the three-year period, you must be licensed or all clinical service in California facilities must cease. In calculating the maximum three years of training, the Medical Board includes all approved training undertaken in the United States and Canada.

In order to satisfy the postgraduate training requirement for California medical licensure, training completed must include a **minimum of four months of rotations in the area of general medicine**. Rotations in transitional, family practice, internal medicine, surgery, pediatrics and obstetrics and gynecology will satisfy this requirement. After satisfying the undergraduate medical education and training requirements, the written exam and postgraduate training requirements and submitting the necessary licensing fees, you will be eligible for licensure.

Please note that California's licensing laws are subject to change over time and it is the applicant's responsibility to submit proof of satisfying all requirements in effect at the time a certificate is issued. Any question concerning the licensing process may be directed to licensing technical staff at the above address or telephone number.